HAMATEUR CHATTER
The Milwaukee Radio Amateur's Club, Inc.
The World's Oldest Continuously Active Radio Amateur Club

FEBRUARY 1991

OFFICERS

President
Ed Wille
W9PWG
461-5961

1st Vice-president
J. Travis Baird
WB9VQD
352-9642

2nd Vice-president
Fred Linn
W9NZF
377-3280

Secretary
Ed Seruga
KE9JJ
545-6299

Treasurer
Dean Kiefer
KB9DNE
962-0280

Chairman of the Board
Ted Stiller
WA9RDI
871-7486

Directors
Jack Krause
W9JK
774-6999

Joe Rayome
KE9LL
463-7668

Marv Rutishauser
WB9PKL
782-3633

Dick Schlatterer
KA9MTY
354-7452

Roger Zaun
W9UVV
242-4931

CLUB CALL W9RH

The winter so far has been unusually mild. How many times in the past can you remember being able to work on antennas OUTSIDE in the first week of February? (That last question does not apply to our readers in milder climates.) This is supposed to be the time of year when hams are found in their shacks huddled over the radio in an effort to keep warm. Somehow that doesn't work quite as well with the transistorized rigs of today.

There will be some changes in style and layout of the newsletter during the coming months. It has taken some time to get used to the new equipment and software, but finally I have gotten an idea of what I am doing . Now I can try to implement some of the things I have learned and apply them to this publication.

Spring will soon be arriving and that bring to mind that we will once again have to deal with thundershowers and the possibility of severe weather. Information concerning this subject can be obtained by listening to the area repeaters of the Amateur Radio Emergency Service. See the Net listing for details.

It is also time to think about the spring session of amateur radio classes. A flyer on this subject is included in the newsletter. Additional copies will be available at Amateur Electronic Supply or can be obtained by calling one of the club officers. Why put off getting that upgrade any longer?

As of February 14, 1991, the no-code license has arrived. The NEW Technician class will have all normal technician privileges above 30 MHz, but will have no HF privileges. This is certainly better than the original FCC proposal which would have done away with the Novice and Technician classes and established the no-code Communicator license as the entry point into amateur radio. The adopted proposal is a vast improvement in comparison. While there will undoubtably be some problems with the new arrangement, I am certain that all of you will join with me in welcoming these new hams into the fraternity. With good will and good example, a percentage of them will be encouraged to upgrade to obtain HF privileges just as a portion of today's Novices and Techs do.

CU next month, Joe, KE9LL, editor.

MEETING NOTICE

The next meeting of the Milwaukee Radio Amateurs' Club will be on February 28, 1991 at 7:30 PM in Room 280 of Wauwautosa East High School. The doors will be open around 7:00 PM for ragchewing and similar activities. A surprise program is planned for this meeting. The subject is so secret, even I haven't been told. Find out what it is by coming to the meeting. I certainly plan to attend!

MEETING REPORT

The first meeting at Wauwautosa East High School, Rm. 180 was reasonably well attended. No one seemed to have too much trouble finding the room, probably due to the work of Ed Wille and Fred Krause. They saw to it that signs pointing the way were located at strategic junctures. I certainly wish that I'd gotten there a bit later so that I could have taken advantage of the system.

Mr. Hugh Putnam gave a very interesting and informative talk on the use of microprocessors in industrial applications. He is a project engineer with Milwaukee Electric and is involved in design of process controllers which use micropprcessors to direct their functions. The choice of the processor chip and its associated circuitry is determined by the customer's desired end use.

ARRL BULLETINS

ARRL Bulletin #7: 23 January, 1991

U.S. Army Mars HQ reports that its organization is handling traffic to and from army troops in the gulf region. Although MARS prefers to handle traffic within its system, MARS often provides liaison to the national traffic system (NTS). NTS operators should route messages bound for army troops in the middle east to local MARS outlets. Navy/Marine/Air Force MARS operations are handling only a limited amount of traffic because of difficulties in delivering messages to their troops.

At this time , there are three areas of U.S. amateur radio activity in connection with the war: 1) domestic MARS/NTS operation 2) Israeli health-and-welfare traffic operations and 3) domestic preparation for possible activation of the National Disaster Medical System. Amateurs are advised to contact their section field organization officials or information of local operations.

ARRL Bulletin #6: 19 January, 1991

The ARRL Board of Directors met in Farmington, Connecticut, January 18 and 19, 1991. A summary of the Highlights follows.

The board adopted a resolution expressing its deep concern for radio amateurs and ARRL members in harms way in the Middle East, and amended the ARRL Bylaws to ensure that service in connection with Operation Desert Storm does not affect any League members membership continuity.

The Board, responding to the general support expressed by the amateur community for the FCC codeless Technician license decision granting all privileges bove 30 MHz, determined that the league would not petition for reconsideration.

Staff was directed to implement a program for the field checking of QSL cards for initial applications of DXCC as set forth in guidelines specified by the membership services committee.

The Board authorized the addition to staff of a public relations coordinator to address the need for the League to actively work for the improvement of amateur radio's image with the general public. An outside consultiong agency will be employed to buttress efforts to develop a continuing public relations campaign.

The Board applauded outgoing DX advisory committee chairman Rick Roderick, K5UR, for his outstanding service to amateur radio, the League, and the DX community.Directors elected to the executive committee are Frank Butler, W4RH, Marshall Quiat, AG0X, Stephen Mendelsohn, WA2DHF, and Paul Grauer, W0FIR.

The Board renewed its commitment to amateur radio education, stressing knowledge, skill, traditions and dedication to purpose. It resolved to renew the tradition of one-to-one, "Elmer", effort.

The Board requested that the ARRL monitoring system pay particular attention to the problem of non-amateur stations in the 12 meter and 17 meter bands.

The Board adopted a new band plan for the 13 cm band. The VRAC and VUAC will seek input for a new band plan for 222 to 225 MHz.

The Board selected Huntsville, Alabama, as the site of the 1993 ARRL National Convention.

The Board picked the San Francisco Bay Area as the site of the 10th ARRL Amateur Radio Computer Newworking Conference, scheduled for September 27 to 29, 1991. The hosting organization will be the Northern California Packet Association.

The Board created a volunteer position for engineers to serve in an advisory capacity, similar to that of volunteer counsel, to assist amateurs with such matters as antenna support structures.

Members of the Johnson Space Flight Center ARC were recognized of efforts in keeping SAREX manifested on NASA shuttle flights. The Goddard ARC was recognized for its shuttle related educational efforts.

The Santa Cruz Amateur Radio Club was commended for its contribution to the advancement of amateur radio and for its 75 years of service to the amateur community and general public in and around the Santa Cruz County, California.

ARRL Bulletin #5: 17 January, 1991

US amateurs are advised as of 1340 EST or 1930 UTC, January 17, 1991, no special restrictions of transmitting are currently in effect as a result of hostilities in the Persian Gulf. To repeat, there are no special restrictions at this time. Amateurs should be prepared to obey any instructions received through the FCC. Monitor W1AW Bulletins for updates.

MILWAUKEE AREA NET INFORMATION

TIME	DAY	FREQ.(MHz)	SUBJECT
9:00 PM	Monday	146.67	Milwaukee-Waukesha ARES
9:00 PM	Tuesday	145.13	MAARS Roundtable
8:00 PM	Wednesday	28.365	Milw. Chapt. 10-10 Int'l.
9:00 PM	Thursday	146.91	6.91 Computer Net
9:00 PM	Friday	28.400	W9RH on the Air. MRAC Club Station
8:00 PM	Sunday	28.805	Milw. Chapt. 10-10 Int'l.
8:30 PM	Sunday	146.91	6.91 Information Net
9:00 PM	Sunday	146.91	6.91 Swap Net

The 2 meter frequencies ar FM repeaters, all are -600KHz offset. The 10 meter frequencies are USB.

If there are any nets which you would like added to this list, please contact the editor.

HELP WANTED

The Board of Directors, upon the request of Jack Krause, W9JK, would like to find an individual who would be willing to learn the ropes of running the Club's Volunteer Examiner Group. The purpose is to initially ease some of the burden off of Jack and eventually to take over completely. Anyone willing to help out please contact Ed Wille, W9PWG, or Jack Krause for more information.

COMING EVENTS

March 10-11, 1991. Wisconsin QSO Party sponsored by the West Allis RAC, 1800 UTC 3/10 to 0100 UTC 3/11. CW and Phone. See p. 75 of Feb. QST for details.

SCHOOL NOTICE

The dates for the spring session of the H. Charles Kaetel Amateur Radio School have been determined. Classes wil run from March 13th until May 15th, 1991, with no meeting during Easter Week. As previously, they will be held on Wednesday nights at 7:30 PM at Wauwautosa East High School. See the enclosed flyer for more information.

VEC LICENSE EXAMS

The MRAC-VEC will be conducting license exams on Wednesday evening, March 6th at 7:00 P.M. in Rm. 256 of Wauwautosa East High School. The school is located on the corner of 76th St. and Milwaukee Avenue. The current amateur license (if any) and two (2) photocopies are required along with one other form of identification. An exam fee of $5.00 for all exams except the Novice will be collected at the time of registration. To register in advance, contact Jack Krause, W9JK, at 774-6999. Walk-ins on exam day are accepted.